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Tutor Teaching Tips

Ricardo's Dilemma (T)

MATERIALS

Leveled reader

Graphic organizer

Game cards;
Game boards

Graphic organizer;
Leveled reader

Before Reading



3–5 minutes

BUILD BACKGROUND: Ask: *Have you ever been to a ballet or seen one on television? What kinds of things can the dancers do?*

PREVIEW THE BOOK: Show the child the covers of the book, and read the title. Ask: *What do you think Ricardo's dilemma might be?* If necessary, explain that the word *dilemma* means a difficult choice.

Look at each picture in the book and ask the child what might be happening in the story.

During Reading



10–15 minutes

Ask the child to read pages 5–16 aloud. If the child has difficulty, read the pages together. Then ask the child to read them independently. Have the child work out unfamiliar words by looking at the letters and word parts. Tell the child to think what word makes sense in the sentence. If the child cannot work out the word, tell him/her. Have the child reread the sentence with the word and then continue reading.

After Reading



10–15 minutes

RETELL: Ask the child to retell the part of the story he/she read on pages 5–16. If necessary, prompt by asking: *What else happened?*

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER: Remind the child that he/she can learn about characters from what they say, what they do, and what they think. Have the child find the events listed in the first column that occurred on pages 5–16. Have him/her write what the events tell him/her about Ricardo.

CRITICAL THINKING: Ask the child if he/she thinks boys should or should not take ballet, and to explain why.

VOCABULARY GAME: Remind the child that an antonym is a word that means the opposite of another word and a synonym is a word that means the same as another word. Place the cards face down in a stack. Have the child select a card, read the word, and place it on the game board beside the word it is an antonym or synonym for. If correct, the child earns two points. It is now your turn to draw a card. Another way to play the game is to see how fast the child can correctly sort the cards onto the game board.

Home Connection

Have the child finish reading the book at home and complete the graphic organizer.

Story event	What Ricardo thinks, says and/or does	What Ricardo's thoughts and actions tell me about him
Mrs. Periwinkle asks Ricardo if he is excited about the field trip to see the ballet.		
Ricardo's mother tells Ricardo that she is happy the class is taking the field trip.		
The stars of the ballet warm up for the show by stretching and turning in circles.		
The class visits the backstage area to see the scenery and colorful costumes.		
Ricardo finds out that two of the dancers are Latino, and that one is named Ricardo.		
Ricardo takes ballet lessons for several months.		
Ricardo and his friend visit the zoo.		

INSTRUCTIONS: Find the events that happened on pages 5–16. Reread that part of the story and record in column 2 what Ricardo thought or did at the time. Then tell what this tells you about Ricardo in column 3. Finish the graphic organizer after you complete your reading of the book.

Leveled Reader

Game Cards

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crawl	jump	unknown	well known
easy	hard	loser	winner
terrible	great	tiny	huge
bored	thrilled	weak	powerful

Leveled Reader

Game Board

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Antonym	leap	Synonym	Antonym	champion	Synonym
Antonym	famous	Synonym	Antonym	difficult	Synonym
Antonym	wonderful	Synonym	Antonym	enormous	Synonym
Antonym	excited	Synonym	Antonym	strong	Synonym